

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A zoom lens system includes a movable-positive first lens group, a movable-negative second lens group, a movable-positive third lens group, and a movable-positive fourth lens group. Upon zooming from the short to the long focal length extremities, all the lens group are arranged to move in a manner that the distance between the first lens group and the second lens group increases, the distance between the second lens group and the third lens group decreases, the distance between the third lens group and the fourth lens group increases, and the distance between the first lens group and the third lens group does not change. Upon zooming from the short to the long focal length extremities, the fourth lens group first moves toward the image and thereafter moves toward the object in a U-turn path. The zoom lens system satisfies the following condition:

$$0.02 < \Delta X4/fw < 0.2 \quad \dots \quad (1)$$

wherein fw designates the focal length of the entire the zoom lens system at the short focal length extremity; and $\Delta X4$ designates the traveling distance of the fourth lens group when the focal length fw changes to "1.5 x fw" under the condition that movement of the fourth lens group toward the image from the short focal length extremity (as a reference point) is defined as a positive direction.